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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE   | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.    | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|---|----------------------|------------------------|------------------|
| 09/698,077      | 10/30/2000  | Kenneth Wills        | 08250.0045-02          | 3296             |
| 826             | 7590 08/30/2006   |                      | EXAMINER               |                  |
|                 | & BIRD LLP  | LUU, MATTHEW         |                        |                  |
|                 | BANK OF AMERICA PLAZA<br>101 SOUTH TRYON STREET, SUITE 4000 |                      |                        | PAPER NUMBER     |
|                 | CHARLOTTE, NC 28280-4000                                    |                      |                        | -                |
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



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| 09/698,077                      |             |  |          |                     |
| ,                               |             |  | EXAMINER |                     |
|                                 |             |  |          |                     |
|                                 |             |  | ART UNIT | PAPER               |
|                                 |             |  |          | 20060828            |

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**Commissioner for Patents** 

## Acknowledgment of Reply Brief

The reply brief filed July 21, 2006 has been entered and considered. The application has been forwarded to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences for decision on the appeal.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to LUU MATTHEW whose telephone number is (571) 272-7663. The examiner can normally be reached on Flexible Schedule.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, JACK KEITH can be reached on (571) 272-7663. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

M. Luu

MATTHEW LUU